

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

16th December, 2007

Third Sunday of Advent

No. 945

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
23rd December

First Reading
Is 7-10-14

Psalms 23

Second Reading
Rom 1:1-7

Gospel
Matthew 1:18-24

The Dean writes

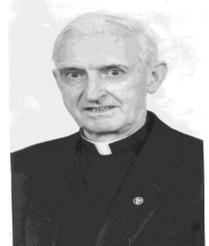
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Fr. Tom's piece on the front page of last Sunday's Bulletin gave me much food for reflection during the week. In case you have forgotten, it was centred on the wonder of giving without hope of reward. It reminds me of a passage from Frank O'Connor's autobiography 'An Only Child'.

As you know, Frank was reared up in Sunday's Well. One Christmas Day after dinner his mother took him up to visit the Good Shepherd Sisters (no longer there). His prized possession was a little toy engine, so he brought that along to show to the nuns. One of the Sisters brought him to see the crib, and he was very upset because the Infant Jesus had no toys. He asked the nun why, and she said his mother was too poor. So there and then he climbed into the crib and placed his little toy engine in the hands of the Infant, having first wound it up because the little Child was too small to know how!!

You know it all began when God gave us his own most precious Son, just out of pure love for us. Christmas reveals what the heart of God is like, and reveals what the human heart is capable of, just like the little boy - Frank O'Connor parting with his most precious possession to the Infant in the Crib.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice."



CONTACT DETAILS

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CHURCH SERVICES

MASSES

Monday 24th - Christmas Eve

9.00, 10.00, 6.15pm (Family Mass), Midnight

Christmas Day: 9.00, 10.30, 12.15pm

Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th: 10.00am

Saturday 29th: 10.00, 6.15pm

Sunday 30th: 9.00, 10.30, 12.15pm

Monday 31st: 9.00 and 10.00am

Tuesday 1st January: 10.00am

Wednesday 2nd/Thursday 3rd: 9.00, 10.00am

First Friday 4th January: 9.00, 10.00, 7.30pm

Saturday 5th January: 9.00, 10.00, 6.15pm

Sunday 6th Feast of the Epiphany:
9.00, 10.30, 12.15pm.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Dennehy's Cross: Sunday 23rd at 5 pm.

Sacred Heart Church: Monday, 17th at 7.30pm

Wilton: Wednesday 19th at 7.30pm

Curraheen: Wednesday 19th at 8.00pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 22nd 12.00
-1.00pm, before 6.15pm Vigil Mass

Monday 24th
12.00-1.00pm, 4.00-5.00pm, before and after
6.15pm Mass.

St. Catherine's Christmas Pageant

in
Church of the Holy Spirit
Dennehy's Cross

Tuesday 18th, 7-9pm
Everybody welcome to attend

All children in the school will participate



Bible Corner

JAMES' WISDOM



Unlike St. Paul, the letter of St. James is only read occasionally at our Sunday Mass. Indeed, people like Martin Luther criticised James' letter because it does not mention the passion, death or resurrection. In fact, it barely mentions Jesus at all. But its purpose was quite specific. It was written for believing communities who were quite familiar with the story of Jesus but who needed to have the practical day to day consequences of living the faith spelt out for them in preparation for the life hereafter.

So this weekend's extract highlights the need to be patient with one another, with God and with ourselves. Our creator, God, continues to mould us in his image so we must be patiently open to his touch. We are beloved of God, saints with L plates up, but called every day to the test of practical Christian living.

Fr. Tom Clancy

NOTICE BOARD

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve

A reminder that another preparation will take place in the church on Wednesday 19th at 3.00pm for schoolchildren wishing to take part in the Mass. Queries to Fr. Tom at 4347616.

Eternal Word Television Network

Did you know that EWTN, the Catholic TV Programme is available on Sky, channel 769, and Chorus, channel 815.

Forthcoming Musical Events

Our Lady Crowned Church, Mayfield, Sunday 16th at 7.30pm with Majella Cullagh, Eleanor Malone, choirs, brass band, schoolchildren. Tickets €20 from Mayfield Parish office (4551276), Pro Musica and at the door, in aid of Church refurbishment fund.

St. Vincent's Church, Sunday's Well, Sunday 16th at 5.00pm. Service of Joy presented by the choir and readers, with prayers and Christmas carols. All welcome.

St. Francis Church, Thursday, 20th December, with Cara O'Sullivan, St. Mary's and St. Francis' choirs, Gael Scoil Úi Riada's children's choir. Tickets €25 in aid of Brú Columbanus.

St. Fin barre's Cathedral, Sunday 23rd and Monday 24th at 4.00pm, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Proceeds shared between Cork Simon Community, Cathedral immigrant support committee, St. Vincent de Paul and Bóthar. All welcome.

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann comes to Bishopstown!

Would you like to learn, teach or support traditional Irish music and culture at Craobh Baile an Easpaig? Volunteers and new members welcome. Please contact the new branch based at St Catherine's NS - call Maura Cummins on 4345591 or email ajkmalone@eircom.net

Special Congratulations!

December 2nd marked 30 years of continuous service to our parish of **Patrick Killeen** (M.A, M.Sc., B.A., B.Mus.) as organist and choir director. Over the years Patrick has worked with dedication and commitment to music, supporting and being part of the liturgy. His ongoing research is on elements of congregational singing in a post Vatican II context and he continues to compose wonderful sacred and liturgical music. As a small token of gratitude the choir presented Patrick with a Cork Crystal plate engraved to mark the special occasion.

DUES, THANKS

Our sincerest thanks to the many parishioners who have sent in their generous Autumn dues and to those who will do so.

A word of appreciation to our courteous distributors/collectors who facilitated the good work.

Happy Christmas to one and all.

- The priests of the parish

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Parishioners who braved the harsh weather to attend the annual Advent Carol Service at the Church of the Holy Spirit last Sunday were well rewarded with an evening which was spiritually uplifting.

The darkened church was illuminated by hundreds of candles creating a quiet peaceful atmosphere as the choir, under their conductor Patrick Killeen intoned the beautiful 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'.

Scripture readings followed. As the Advent candles were blessed, Ruth McDonnell played a reflection on the harp. The carol, 'O Child of Promise Come' sung by soloist, Sinead Murphy, brought the service to a close.

Before imparting the final blessing, Monsignor O'Callaghan thanked all those who contributed to making the service such a success, especially Patrick Killeen and the parish liturgy group, readers and altar servers, not forgetting our Sacristan, Gertrude Hurley. These comments were greeted with prolonged applause from the congregation.

Advent is a time of Faith. We wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour at Christmas.